

APPENDIX B

1776

1876

CENTENNIAL HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN OF AMES,

Story County, Iowa

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COMPILED BY ORDER OF

*The Town Council of Ames*

By

C. E. TURNER, ESQ.

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# CENTENNIAL

## HISTORY OF AMES

Among the many thriving and prominent towns of Central Iowa, AMES, in this Centennial year, is deserving of front rank and prominent mention. It is situated on the line of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, three hundred and twenty-four miles west of Chicago, one hundred and sixty-five miles east from Council Bluffs, thirty-seven miles North from Des Moines, and within a few miles of the geographical center of the State.

The town took its name from the late Hon. Oakes Ames, of Massachusetts, a man of world-wide notoriety and formerly an active pioneer in western railroad enterprise. He always manifested a lively interest in the improvement and welfare of his western namesake, which took practical and material shape on more than one occasion.

It is not presumptuous to declare that even in the great and growing West, where often under the stimulus of unexpected or suddenly inaugurated public improvements, or private enterprise, towns spring into existence and become objects of local wonder and speculation in a day, few instances can be found of towns whose record will bear favorable comparison to the truthful history of AMES.

It dates its birth in the fall of 1864, and its paternity to the enterprise of John I. Blair, the "Railroad King" of Iowa, as exhibited in the building of the Cedar Rapids & Missouri River Rail Road, now operated by the Chicago & Northwestern R. R. Co., forming an important link in their line from Chicago to Council Bluffs.

While towns already established along the line of this road, were inspired with new life by its completion, AMES was one of its creations. It was finished to this point in October 1864 and nearly simultaneously with that event the town was laid out and the first dwelling house within what is now the incorporation, was erected and occupied during the same month by Noah Webster who is still a citizen of AMES. Although the road was completed to this point and beyond at the time above stated, regular trains for freight and passengers were not run until the following June. On the opening of the road for general business in 1865, H. F. Kingsbury came as local agent, discharging at the same time the rather *onerous* duties of Express Agent. Mr. Kingsbury soon engaged in mercantile pursuits, and was the first postmaster appointed at this place, the duties of which position he continued to discharge in an acceptable manner until the spring of 1869, when he was superceded by L. Q. Hoggatt who held the office until June, 1871, when he was succeeded by S. L. Lucas who was the incumbent until his death which took place Dec. 29th, 1875. In February, 1876, his widow, Mrs. Hattie A. Lucas, was appointed and commissioned as his successor in office, the duties

of which she has since discharged. In July, 1871, a Postal Money Order Office was established here, the disbursements of which during the quarter ending June 31, 1876, were about \$2,100.00, and the amount received during same period for orders sold was about \$6,000.00. It may be proper here to note that this is an office of the third class, the salary being \$1,200.00. This latter fact is presented as *one* index of the intelligence of our people.

### Incorporation of the Town

In the fall of 1869, steps were taken to incorporate the town of AMES, and the project, on being submitted to the popular vote, was approved by a large majority. At the first election of municipal officers, Wm. West, Esq., was elected Mayor.

The results of this measure have justified the most ardent hopes of our people. Under it our streets have been graded and drained, sidewalks built, and other improvements made tending to beautify the town and advance the convenience, health and happiness of our citizens.

The present municipal officers are —

Wm. Clark, *Mayor*.

John L. Stevens, *Recorder*.

H. P. Lods, H. C. Huntington, Wm. S. Bradley,  
Chas. Barroll, H. Gilbert, *Trustees*.

E. R. Chamberlain, *Treasurer*.

S. S. Paxton, *Assessor*.

C. J. Kogle, *Street Commissioner*.

McCarthy Stevens & Underwood, *City Attorneys*.

W. C. Shockley, *Marshal*.

The present populations of AMES, is about 1,200 which is being constantly augmented by the influx of new settlers, who are attracted to this point by its many superior material advantages.

### CHURCHES

If the number and respectability of church organizations, is to be taken as an index of the character of a community, we may justly be denominated a religious people. Beyond a care for educational interests, another characteristic of our Yankee nation, is their earnest and commendable desire to evangelize the world. The citizens of AMES in large proportion come of that puritan stock who made all other interests subservient to the paramount one of religious development.

### Methodist Episcopal Church

Our Methodist friends were characteristically foremost here in evangelical effort. During the early part of the year 1862, a church was organized in this township,

consisting of only six members. We receive this latter fact, as evidence of the sparsely settled condition of the country, and also of the abundant faith, which upon all occasions, and under all circumstances, stimulates and upholds the devoted followers of Wesley.

The little band of only six members, enjoyed, during their first year, the ministrations, of Rev. James Hankins. He was succeeded by Rev. J. M. Dudley, who had charge of the small but rapidly increasing flock for two years. Mr. Dudley gave place to Rev. W. S. Darwin, who continued with the church two years. During his second year, a church edifice was commenced, on the corner of Onondaga and Kellogg streets, on grounds donated to the society for that purpose, by Hon. John I. Blair. Rev. J. R. Williams, of Indiana, donated the sum of one hundred dollars to aid in the construction of the building. Many citizens of AMES and vicinity, also made very generous contributions for this object. The result of this effort was a very tasty and convenient church building, surmounted by a modest looking belfry, containing a fine toned bell of appropriate size.

In the year 1867, Rev. T. P. Newlin succeeded Mr. Darwin, and in 1868 was himself succeeded by Rev. E. Kendall. Mr. Kendall remained with his charge two years, being very popular both with his church and the community. During his pastorate he succeeded in nearly relieving the church of financial obligations incurred in completing the house of worship. In obedience to the rules of the church, Mr. Kendall, after two years of profitable labor, gave place to Rev. J. G. Eckles. After one year of very acceptable service Mr. Eckles was in turn succeeded by Rev. A. Wilson who remained in charge two years. Though a man of marked ability, the labors of Mr. Wilson here were far from successful. During his pastorate difficulties arose which proved nearly fatal to all the interests of the church. But under the ministrations of Rev. A. Brown who took the charge in September 1873 the church was fully relieved of its financial embarrassments and recovered much of its lost vigor and usefulness. The pastorate of Mr. Brown terminated in the fall of 1875, his successor being Rev. I. T. Miller, an old citizen of our county, and an earnest worker in the cause which he has espoused. Discord has given place to harmony of thought and action, and never in the history of this organization has its future seemed more promising than now. While the membership is slightly reduced from its maximum, the loss in numbers is fully compensated by the unity of purpose now existing, and which at one time had nearly deserted them. The present membership is one hundred and ten.

### **Baptist Church**

The initiatory steps toward the organization of the Baptist Church at AMES, were taken July 11, 1868. Fourteen persons were associated in this effort, and four others became united with them during the same month, and on September 5, of that year, we find the membership increased to twenty-three. From October, 1868, to April, 1869, Rev. S. P. Day officiated as pastor, being succeeded in the latter month by Rev. H. A. Barden, a young

man of good ability, under whose charge the church continued until the following October, making good progress in material strength, and with several additions to its membership.

At the New Year, 1870, Rev. S. H. Mitchell took pastoral charge, and under his wise and vigorous administration, all the interests of the church were largely advanced. Early in the succeeding year the preliminary steps toward the building of a church edifice were taken, two lots being purchased for its site at the corner of Kellogg and Story streets at a cost of \$300.00. During the summer of 1871, and the succeeding winter, these lots were paid for by the Ladies Aid Society of the church, much to the credit of their energetic action.

During the season of 1872 the church building was erected and inclosed and in the early summer of 1873, though not fully completed, it was dedicated and occupied by the church. The size of this house of worship is 34x50 feet with an alcove where the pulpit is situated ten feet in depth and of appropriate dimensions. The cost of the building thus far has been about \$3,500.00, all but \$400 of which was paid during Mr. Mitchell's pastorate, the latter sum having been paid since he left. About \$1,000 more will be needed to complete the church building in accordance with the architects plan's and the intentions of the church. There need however, be no doubt entertained but the early and full completion of this tasty church edifice will be accomplished, when we consider that its interests are in the charge of individuals and an organization who have already given so convincing evidence of determined energy in the former progress of this enterprise. It was undertaken at a time when business of all kinds was depressed, when the truthful cry of "hard times" was upon every lip; under conditions indeed where difficulties and discouragement seemed unsurmountable. Its successful prosecution under these circumstances reflects great credit upon Mr. Mitchell to whose persevering action it is largely due, and also upon the Baptist church of AMES and our citizens generally, without whose generous material aid it could not have been accomplished.

Mr. Mitchell found the church with a membership of less than forty, with only occasional service at uncertain periods, and this service held in a small and inconvenient hall; after five years of such labor as few men could have been found competent to perform, he surrendered his charge, being himself called to higher and seemingly more important duties, with a membership increased to seventy-five, active, earnest and united workers, a church edifice of fair proportions, so nearly completed as to be fit for occupancy, and what is of great importance, nearly paid for, and all the evangelizing agencies of the church thoroughly organized and in successful operations.

On the 1st of January 1875, Mr. Mitchell was succeeded in the pastorate of the church by Rev. D. D. Proper, the present incumbent. Mr. Proper is a man of rare energy of character, devoted to his profession and the church of his choice and constantly gaining in favor both with his own people and other classes of our citizens.

Since the commencement of his pastoral charge, the debt then existing has been paid off and the influence

and usefulness of the church greatly promoted and enlarged. During the past year, fifty-five have been added to the membership making the present number one hundred and thirty — one of the most promising church organizations in our town.

### Congregational Church

The First Congregational church of AMES was organized November 5th, 1865, with a membership of nine persons, and under the temporary pastoral charge of Rev. John White, formerly of Woodstock, Conn. The church edifice is a tasty looking and convenient building, but in size, quite inadequate to the accommodation of the present attendance of worshipers. Initiatory steps have been taken to enlarge its dimensions, which together with other improvements is likely soon to be accomplished.

The fine toned bell, at whose call worshippers here congregate, was the gift of Hon. Oakes Ames, of Mass. Other gifts from his hand have challenged the admiration, and awakened the grateful feelings which the Congregational society and the citizens of AMES will ever cherish for the munificent donor.

Mr. White continued in charge of the church until the spring of 1868. By his judicious management, and strict attention to its many interest, its membership was very largely increased, and its influence and usefulness greatly advanced. Ill health compelled Mr. White to sever these pleasant and useful relations, and he was succeeded by Rev. S. Gilbert, a gentleman of great literary attainments, and of highly social tastes and habits. Owing to some difference of opinion among the members of the church, it seemed to the majority that its interests would be subserved by the withdrawal of Mr. Gilbert from its service. From April, 1869, until the following November, the church was without a pastor or stated preaching. At the latter date, Rev. A. A. Baker assumed pastoral relations therewith, which continued until October, 1874. A good degree of prosperity and growth was enjoyed during this period, though some portion of it was unfavorable to the progress of a new enterprise, owing to circumstances connected with the history of the town.

March, 1875, Rev. Geo. G. Perkins entered upon the pastorate, removing his family here in June; meantime, the building east of the church had been erected as a parsonage and about July 1 was occupied for that purpose. This, including the fence inclosing the lot, has cost about \$2,000.

In the consummation of this work, a unity of purpose and a general co-operation was manifested. The ministrations of Mr. Perkins here have given great satisfaction to the church and people. He is a man of fine ability, thorough education, an earnest and fluent speaker with his whole heart given to the work in which he is engaged. Never since the organization of this church have its prospects seemed more flattering or its future success and usefulness better assured.

The tenth anniversary of the organization of the church, Nov. 5, 1875, was observed by a "Praise and Fellowship Meeting," which was attended by a goodly number of the membership. Interesting reminiscences were

given of its early history, its work, and former pastors.

The present membership of the church is about one hundred and forty.

### Episcopalians

As early as the spring of 1871 an effort was made to establish a Mission station of the Episcopal church at this place, with very encouraging prospects of success.

Quite a number of persons, who were formerly members of this old established organization, had temporarily united themselves with other churches here, with the understanding that the establishment of service by the "Mother Church," should leave them free to withdraw from the connection thus made. But owing to an unexpected and unfortunate combination of circumstances, the scheme, at first so promising in the end, proved abortive.

Lately however, it has been revived with good hope of permanent success. We have promise of Mission service, for the present monthly, or oftener, and the friends of the church indulge earnest hope that the desire of years is about to be accomplished, and they again blessed by the ministrations of the church in whose bosom their childhood and youth were spent, and to whose beautiful service and form of worship they are devotedly attached.

### Commercial Interests

From very small beginnings the commercial interests of AMES have acquired quite large and promising proportions. The first goods offered for sale in AMES, were brought here by H. F. Kingsbury Esq., in the summer of 1865, only eleven years ago, and were exposed for sale in the depot building which had just been erected by the railroad Co. and where Mr. Kingsbury, in addition to his mercantile pursuits, discharged the duties of railroad agent, express agent and post master. Shortly after, N. A. Rainbolt became associated with Mr. Kingsbury in trade, very soon becoming sole proprietor and moving the stock into a building erected by Mr. K. at the corner of Onondaga and Duff Streets, wherein is now kept the New York House. Mr. Rainbolt continued in the mercantile business until the summer of 1869 when he sold out and devoted himself to more congenial pursuits.

The second commercial enterprise in AMES was started by S. O. Osborn who erected a fine store building at the corner of Onondaga and Douglass Streets, for the drug trade in which business he continued until 1872 a part of the time being associated with John J. Bosquet, the firm being Osborn & Bosquet. The interest of Mr. Osborn passed to a brother of Mr. Bosquet and the business is still continued at the old stand by J. J. Bosquet & Co. In 1866 S. H. Miller erected a store building on the N. E. corner of Douglass and Onondaga Streets, which he occupied as dealer in Hardware. The firm was shortly known as Miller & Kerr who in 1867 sold to Mr. J. H. McLain who enlarged and continued the business. The next year he sold an interest to H. R. Boyd, the firm of McLain & Boyd continued until 1871, when Mr. McLain sold his remaining interest to Wm. O. Boyd, and the firm became Boyd Brothers who still occupy the old stand with an extensive and constantly increasing business. They

deal in general hardware, stoves, wagons, and all kinds of agricultural implements and farm machinery. In addition to their store proper, they occupy a large warehouse on the south side of Onondaga Street.

In the early part of 1867 Messrs. Wm. D. & S. L. Lucas erected a commodious store building on Onondaga Street directly west of the drug store which they immediately occupied with a large stock of general merchandise. They continued in business about one year with a constantly increasing trade and in the Spring of 1868 sold their business and building to L. T. Larned of Illinois, who the same season sold his entire interest to D. A. Bigelow and H. C. Huntington who, under the firm name of Bigelow & Huntington, continued the business until the following spring, when Geo. G. Tilden, a young man from Vermont, became the third partner in the firm which, as Bigelow Huntington & Tilden, has greatly enlarged, and successfully prosecuted the business to the present time. During the year 1873 they built and occupied a handsome and commodious brick store one door west of their old stand where they continue to do a very successful and yearly increasing business.

In the spring of 1867, J. H. & I. T. Miller erected the building on Onondaga Street, where the Post-Office is now kept, which they occupied as a general retail store. They had a prosperous trade for near two years, and in the spring of 1869 sold building and stock to Messrs. Alexander & Maxwell, of Chicago who continued in business until 1873 when they closed out, Mr. Alexander returning to Chicago and Mr. Maxwell engaging in other pursuits.

Among the pioneers in trade here was H. P. Lods, who commenced with a general stock of merchandise in the fall of 1866, continuing in trade only one year. In June 1871, he again went into business with J. H. Miller the firm being J. H. Miller & Co. About one year later Mr. Miller retired and Mr. Lods took as a partner E. H. Monroe. After one year T. K. Soper became associated with Lods & Monroe, the new firm being Lods Monroe & Soper. The business was removed to a large and commodious brick store erected by Mr. Soper on the south side of Onondaga Street, in the fall of 1873. No further change took place until the spring of 1865, when Mr. Lods sold to A. C. Thomas, since when the firm has been Monroe, Soper & Thomas. They do a large and profitable business in their line of merchandise besides being largely engaged in the purchase and shipment of live-stock.

Early in the fall of 1869, a hardware store was opened by Messrs. Holmes & Foster of Cleveland Ohio. They carried a fine stock of goods and were reasonably successful in their business enterprise. In 1870 Mr. Holmes sold his interest to S. L. Lucas, the firm becoming Lucas and Foster. Later Mr. Foster sold to W. G. Wright who has, with several changes of partners continued at the head of the concern to the present time, and has by strict attention to business and the most untiring zeal and energy, built up one of the best hardware trades in Story county. The firm for the past year has been Wright & Little.

The grocery trade in AMES has had a multitude of representatives. Among those K. W. Brown, Ralph Marshall, J. H. Gale, S. B. Farwell, and Thomas Bro's. were the earliest, each contributing to the establishment and development of this branch of commerce here. Later we find J. Worick, M. Chaney, Wm. Clark, present Mayor, and others of lesser note engaged in this business. No town in the West can boast of more fair or enterprising dealers in this branch than AMES.

In the spring of 1867, Dr. S. J. Starr and Ben. Breneman opened a small drug store in AMES near where the livery stable now stands. In 1868 they removed their stock to a commodious new store which they erected on the south side of Onondaga Street. They here established a large and profitable trade and continued to occupy this store until the fire in June, 1875, when their building and stock were utterly destroyed, since which they have been engaged in other pursuits.

The first pine lumber offered for sale here was brought by A. D. Rainbolt and L. Q. Hoggatt, in the spring 1866—two cars. Mr. Rainbolt shortly sold to L. Irwin and Hoggatt & Irwin were succeeded by Wheeler and Matthews, and they in turn by Giles Cook, afterwards, in 1869 Cook & Stewart, and they two years later by A. D. Markham.

In the fall of 1869 a branch lumber yard of C. Lamb & Son, of Clinton, was started here with C. D. Norman manager. In 1873, A. D. Markham sold to Lamb & Son, and the two yards were consolidated. This is the only lumber firm since doing business here. Their trade is quite large as will be manifest when the fact is stated that they handle about 250 car-loads, or near 2,000,000 feet of lumber per year.

The foregoing comprises a nearly accurate list, and brief mention of the early established dealers here in the several mercantile branches. In a supplementary statement will be found a list of firms, and members of the different trades, professions and other callings at the present time.

### **Civic Societies — Masonic**

Arcadia Lodge, No. 249 A. F. & A. M. was organized U. D. in November, 1868, with twelve members, and received its charter in June, 1869. The present membership of this lodge is thirty-four. Regular communications are held on Thursday evening on or before the full moon.

This organization is in a very healthy and promising condition, counting among its membership many of our most prominent and influential citizens. Its present officers are, A. Duckworth, W. M.; A. J. Graves, S. W.; Cal. Giddings, J. W.; H. P. Lods, Treas.; D. A. Bigelow, Sec'y.

### **Good Templars**

As early as 1867 a lodge of this order was organized here, being for two or three years successful and popular in its work. Owing however, to the introduction of some discordant elements, it was thought best in the fall of 1870, to suspend its labors, and soon after its charter was surrendered. No effort was made to revive the work of

the order here, until within the last year. The time being deemed at length propitious, application was made to the Grand Lodge of the State for a charter, which was granted, and on the 15th of January last, Good Will Lodge was organized. Its work had been fully up to the expectations of those who were active in its institution, and its future prospects at present seem flattering.

The membership of this lodge is at present fifty. It meets in Grange Hall, which is also occupied by Arcadia Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Ames Grange. The following are the present officers of this lodge:—W. D. T., I. B. Frazee; W. V. T., Mrs. McElyea; W. Sec. Mrs. I. T. Miller; W. F. Sec., S. H. Goble; W. Treas., H. Wooders; W. C., Ira Bixby.

### **Ames Grange, No. 121**

Although the membership of this organization is to some extent distributed through Washington and Franklin townships, there are many reasons for classing it among the institutions of our town. It was organized in the fall of 1871, and has ever since been one of the most active and healthy Granges in Story county. The meetings are held in Grange Hall, on the afternoon of the first and third Saturdays in each month. The present membership is sixty-five. The officers for the present year are A. J. Graves, W. M.; Richard Marshall, W. O.; D. G. Ferguson, W. S.; H. Christman, W. Sec'y.; C. S. Giddings, W. Treas.; C. E. Turner, W. L.; John E. Davis, W. C.

### **The Press of Ames**

No historical notice of our town would be complete if it did not embrace an account of newspaper enterprises here. The weekly INTELLIGENCER was established in AMES in April 1869 by A. McFadden by whom it was edited and published up to the fall of 1874. Mr. McFadden was a man of large experience as a newspaper publisher and gave to our citizens a paper of which any locality might be proud. No local paper in the State has been more ably conducted than was the INTELLIGENCER under Mr. McFadden, its teachings always pure both in politics and morals. Failing health made it necessary for Mr. McFadden to be relieved in the fall of 1874, and C. E. Turner had editorial charge of the paper for near a year, conducting it in a very able and satisfactory manner. In August 1875 W. O. Robinson bought a half interest in the INTELLIGENCER, which was run by McFadden and Robinson, until the death of Mr. McFadden in January, 1876. The paper continued in charge of Mr. Robinson from that period until April last, when it was purchased by the present proprietors, Messrs. Watts & Alexander. Under this management there has been a marked improvement both in the editorial and mechanical character of the INTELLIGENCER. They are young men of good ability, both practical printers, steady, industrious, and Mr. Watts of large experience in newspaper work. We predict for THE INTELLIGENCER a future of great prosperity and usefulness.

### **Attorneys**

The first representative of this profession in Ames

was D. W. Gage Esq., who came in the fall of 1868 from Cleveland, Ohio. In the spring of 1869 C. E. Turner Esq., settled here and engaged in the practice of his profession in company with N. A. Rainbolt, under the firm name of Turner & Rainbolt. Dan McCarthy, an old resident of AMES was admitted to practice the same year. In 1871 Turner & Rainbolt dissolved their business connection, both parties remaining here in practice. During this season, J. L. Lucky Esq., of Rochester, N.Y. settled here in the practice of the law continuing about one year when he returned to Rochester where he still resides.

Two years later Mr. Gage left here and returned to Cleveland. In Nov. 1863, John L. Stevens, a young Att'y from Benton County associated himself with Mr. McCarthy and the firm of McCarthy & Stevens continued until the spring of 1876 when they took a third partner in the person of George A. Underwood, a graduate of the class of 1875 of the law department of the University of Wisconsin. The firm has since this event been McCarthy, Stevens & Underwood.

During the spring of 1876 Mr. Rainbolt took as a partner Geo. H. Barnes, a graduate of the law department of the Simpson Centenary College.

The foregoing is a full list of the lawyers who have engaged in practice here to this date. A recapitulation shows that the profession is now represented here by Rainbolt & Barnes, C. E. Turner Esq., and McCarthy, Stevens & Underwood. Mr. McCarthy, the senior member of this latter firm gives little attention to their business or practice, devoting his time and energies to other pursuits. Mr. Stevens and Mr. Underwood are young men of fine ability and strict professional integrity, and of more than ordinary promise. During his business experience here Mr. Stevens in conjunction with his partner Mr. McCarthy has established a large and lucrative practice, and very much of the success of the firm in this regard is due to the enterprise and energy of the first named gentleman.

Mr. Turner has the advantage that age and long experience in the profession gives, is a man of culture, with fine literary tastes, a ready, fluent and forcible speaker and stands high in the respect and consideration of our people.

Mr. Rainbolt, of the firm of Rainbolt & Barnes has been a resident of AMES ten years, and is well and favorably known to our citizens. He is noted for his strict attention to business and energy in his profession. Mr. Barnes is a young man of good education, and fine promise. We feel fully justified in the declaration that the members of the legal fraternity of AMES may safely challenge comparison with those of any other locality in the State, surely so if ability, energy and integrity are made the standard of professional merit.

### **Medical**

The pioneer in the practice of medicine in Ames, was one Dr. Phipps, who moved here at the time of the first settlement of the town. Dr. Phipps never claimed a thorough medical education, and his practice and residence here were of short duration.

In the spring of 1866 Dr. L. Carr, formerly of Kentucky, settled in AMES, and continued in practice here about four years. Dr. Carr was a man of thorough medical education, of large experience and a very successful practitioner. In the spring of 1870 he abandoned a very extensive practice here and returned to his "old Kentucky home" where he is still in the practice of his profession, a hale and vigorous old man.

The next in order, is Dr. S. J. Starr, who came to AMES during the early part of the year 1866, and at once commenced medical practice. He soon received not only a flattering practice but the respect and confidence of citizens of town and country. In 1875, owing to failing health, the consequence of fatigue and exposure incident to pioneer practice, Dr. Starr was obliged to retire from his profession. He will long be remembered by our people as a devoted and self sacrificing physician. Dr. Starr is still a resident of Ames.

In the summer of 1868 Dr. James Bradley a graduate of the Chicago Medical College of the class of 1868, settled in Ames and commenced the practice of his profession, as partner of Dr. Carr. This connection was continued until the removal of Dr. Carr from AMES, when Dr. A. Richmond became associated with him, this business relation continuing until the summer of 1872. Dr. Bradley's medical career in AMES has been a continuing success, as his host of friends and patrons abundantly testify. He still resides here in the practice of his profession.

In the spring of 1870 Dr. Albert Richmond, of Vermont, and a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Vermont, came to AMES, and engaged in the practice of medicine, associating himself with Dr. James Bradley with whom he continued during his residence here, which terminated in the summer of 1872. Dr. Richmond in addition to a finished general education, was thoroughly read in his profession, and was very successful and popular in his practice. He went from here to his native town in Windsor Co., Vermont, where he is engaged in a very extensive practice. He is still remembered by his many friends in this vicinity as a finished gentleman and kind and sympathizing medical attendant.

One of our most popular and skillful physicians is Dr. D. S. Fairchild, a native of Vermont and a graduate of the class of 1868 of the Albany N.Y. Medical College. He located in AMES in July 1872, and at once took high rank in the medical profession here. Dr. Fairchild is deservedly popular, being not only thoroughly read in his profession, and a constant and devoted student of its literature, but beyond this an intelligent and social gentleman. He still resides here in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative practice.

The oldest medical practitioner in AMES both as relates to years of life and years devoted to the profession, is Dr. Geo. Stitzell. Dr. Stitzell graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in the year 1855 and at once engaged in medical practice which he has continued until the present time. During the late rebellion he served as surgeon of the 56th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry two years in a very acceptable manner. Dr. S. has been a

resident of Story County thirteen years, eleven years at Nevada, and the last two years at this place. His reputation, as a successful practitioner is second to none of the fraternity at this point.

Last in the list of members of the medical fraternity of AMES, as well as the youngest in the profession is Dr. Geo. A. Meredith, a graduate of the class of 1872, of the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. Dr. Meredith first settled at Ontario, in this county, from whence he moved to AMES in August 1874, where he continues to practice. Dr. Meredith has all the qualifications for a first-class physician and is rapidly winning favor with our people and distinction in his profession.

In conclusion of this subject it may truthfully be said of the medical fraternity of AMES, that they have ever sustained themselves and the profession they honor in a very creditable manner before our people, and those practicing here enjoy in an eminent degree the confidence and respect of our community. Although within two hours ride of our State Capital it is a rare thing indeed, that medical council is sought from that point where some of the most noted of the profession in the State reside. Beyond this it seems proper to state that representatives to the State Medical Association, and the International Medical Congress have been from time to time selected from the members of the profession here. These facts confer a high [m]eed of praise upon members of the fraternity at AMES, and afford an unmistakable index of the estimation in which they are held at home and abroad.

### **Our Schools**

Special prominence should be given to the educational advantages of our growing city. Until April, 1871, we were known as Sub-District No. 4 of Washington township. Since that period we have been known as The Independent District of AMES. At the time of our independent organization we found ourselves with an enumeration of 226 scholars, supporting two teachers with an average attendance in our schools of 145. We were near \$2,000 in debt, with but one school building, and that of limited capacity, besides being inconveniently situated as related to near one-half the scholars. But our people have every fully realized the important benefit to be derived from popular education, and have manifested a commendable zeal in their efforts to provide ways and means for the promotion of this vital interest, and it is a source of congratulation that these efforts have been fruitful in results. We have to-day two school houses of tasteful appearance and convenient arrangement, with five large rooms, where near three hundred scholars are daily taught in the rudiments of education.

### **The Iowa State Agricultural College,**

May properly be classed among the educational agencies of AMES. It is situated one mile west of the city, on a fine elevation overlooking the surrounding country in every direction. The College farm was purchased for the State in 1859, the act for the establishment of the Agricultural College having been passed by the legisla-

ture in 1858. Up to 1862 little had been done in furtherance of the enterprise — if we except the purchase of the farm and the organization of the Board of Trustees. But the act of congress in that year "donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may found colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," placed this institution upon a firm basis and secured to it an endowment fund which now affords a yearly revenue to the College of about \$40,000. While this institution is the property of the State, our people regard it with special pride and interest, and set it at the head in the list of our local advantages. Here tuition is free to such of our children as desire to avail themselves of teachings in the higher branches of knowledge and science, and the college is so near as to be easy of access, pupils boarding with their parents at their own homes. This privilege can hardly be overestimated, and many of our youth avail themselves of it yearly, their efforts being cordially seconded by the College Faculty.

### Rail Roads

The central position of AMES on the map of our State cannot fail to strike the observer as likely to afford her marked advantages over other inland towns as relates to probable railroad connections. This was seen and appreciated by our first settlers when the C. R. & M. R. R. R. was completed to this point, and hence the active and persistent efforts of our people in behalf of a railroad connection with the State Capital which were at length crowned with success in the building of the D. M. & M. R. R. from Des Moines to this place. While this road, which here connects with the C. & N. W. R. R. is in itself of vast advantage to us, bringing us, as it does into near business and we may say social relations with a large and enterprising city, we yet regard it of far greater importance as giving promise of other north and south roads from beyond us at the northeast and northwest, which roads seem destined from natural causes to converge to this point. The Northwestern must ever remain, as it to-day is, the chief of all the east and west trunk lines traversing our State. It is not the legitimate object or province of this work to give statistical data touching the standing or comparative traffic of this line of road. It may not however be out of place to state that with a first class road bed and track, with all needed rolling stock, it is at many seasons of the year taxed to its utmost capacity in doing all the business offered, and the building of a second track has been from time to time earnestly discussed — the managers of the road seeing the necessity for this improvement in the near future. At this time, of all the points contributing to the carrying trade of this road west of Cedar Rapids, AMES, with two exceptions stands first.

The coming crop will add largely to the surplus agricultural products of our county all of which must be moved toward a market by this road, and the call for shipping facilities from AMES is likely to be largely in excess of any former year, and this steadily growing demand can only be met in the coming year by the greatly enlarged carrying capacity of the road. At present nearly

one-half the shipments from Story county are made at Ames, and when we consider that the D. M. & M. Road is of narrow gauge, and that other contemplated lines, which will be feeders of the Northwestern will be of same construction, necessitating here a transfer of all shipments over them, Ames assumes a prominence as a prospective railroad center second to that of few towns in the State.

The following summary and addenda will show the present condition of AMES as relates to material industries and interests. We have here four firms dealing in General Merchandise, to-wit:—Bigelow Huntington & Tilden, Monroe Soper & Thomas, H. Rothschild & Co. (New York Store, I. E. Hirsh, Manager,) and the Skandinavian Store, Christensen & Jacobson proprietors. The three first named firms carry large and full stocks of dry goods, groceries, hats, caps, clothing, boots and shoes, carpets, &c., &c. The latter named carries a full but lighter stock in all lines mentioned. In the line of Hardware we have three firms, all doing a prosperous business. Boyd Brothers, in addition to their general hardware and stove trade deal largely in farm machinery and agricultural implements. Wright & Little carry a large and full stock of general hardware, stoves, &c. They also deal in agricultural implements and farm machinery. Bingham & Barroll is a new firm in this line, dealing in general hardware, stoves, pumps, and house furnishing goods. They are enterprising young men and carry a very fine and full stock of goods.

In the line of Groceries and Family Supply Stores, we have Chaney & Co., and Wm. Clark. These firms have each a large and prosperous business, and keep full and perfect stocks of groceries, vegetables, green, dried and canned fruits &c., &c.

In the Drug Trade we have John J. Bousquet & Co., and Tilden & Eddy. They each carry full stocks of drugs, paints, oil and glass, patent medicines, books, paper, wall paper and notions. Bosquet & Co. have the advantage of long experience here, but Tilden & Eddy are young men of rare probity and enterprise and have already a large trade, which promises a steady increase.

H. P. Lods deals in ready made clothing, boots and shoes, gentlemen's furnishing goods and notions. He carries a large and full stock.

We have two Jewelry Stores, either of which would be a credit to a much larger town than Ames. W. W. Booth was the first established, but I. B. Frazee is after him in all kinds of enterprise known to the trade. They are both young men who understand their business and attend to it in all its details.

*The Intelligencer*, a weekly newspaper, is published here by Watts & Alexander. Also during each college year, *The Aurora*, by the college literary societies.

Hotels. Ames boasts of two No. 1 Hotels, The West House, kept by Wm. West, and the New York House, J. A. Bain proprietor. Traveling men testify that no superior and few as good Hotels as those of Ames are kept on the N. W. R. R. in Iowa.

In custom Boot and Shoe making we have L. Z. DeLorme, C. Johnson, and Bonebrake & Hulett. They

are all busy—good evidence of the excellence of their workmanship.

We have two Harness Shops. Wm. McMichael, and H. S. Goble. Both these concerns, are reliable and well patronized and their stocks comprise everything in their line.

Of Furniture Stores we have two; B. J. Blaney and P. B. Butler. Mr. Blaney has been a resident of Ames near ten years and is noted for his "good works." Mr. Butler is also an old resident, carrying a large stock and does a large business.

The only special dealer in farm machinery and agricultural implements, is Cal. Giddings. He does an extensive business and is a reliable man.

As before noticed there is but one Lumber Dealer in Ames. C. Lamb & Sons, of Clinton, Iowa, represented by C. D. Norman Agent. Their supply of lumber and building material in their line is large and complete.

Of the Professions of Law and Medicine, Ames has the following representatives: Attorneys; Cyrus E. Turner, McCarthy Stevens & Underwood, and Rainbolt & Barnes; Physicians; James Bradley, Geo Stitzell, S. J. Starr, D. S. Fairchild and G. A. Meredith.

As a practical Dentist, Dr. E. D. Andruss has no superior in the State, as his numerous patrons will testify.

Banker, Wm. D. Lucas. Mr. Lucas does a general banking business and is in every respect a reliable business man. He is the treasurer of the Agricultural College, and is also the owner of the Ames Steam Flouring Mill which has three run of stones and is a No. 1 mill. Ames

has also a Steam Saw Mill owned by Maxwell & Jones. We have two Meat Markets, Ben Read, and Jacob Winter & Co. Ben was here before the flood—of immigration. Winter & Co. are a later established institution, both are first class and flourishing. One Livery Stable in Ames, run by Nichols & Maxwell. No better in the State. Tripp and Walker, W. K. Barnes and the Ames Manufacturing Co., represent the Blacksmithing interest in Ames. The latter concern is also engaged in the manufacturing of first class Wagons and Buggies. Maxwell & Jones have also a Wagon shop for manufacturing and repairs. The Ames Steam Elevator, a brick structure of 15,000 bushels capacity also deserves special mention. A. H. Thayer runs one of the most perfect Restaurants in the State; also in connection a first class bakery. He also deals in flour, green and canned fruits, fancy groceries, tobacco and cigars, candies, nuts, oysters, etc., etc. J. Blaine also runs a restaurant, and in its connection a bakery. S. S. Peterman and E. Haskins are professors of the tonsorial art in Ames—both first-class workmen. In the Millinery line we have the Misses Sweeney and Mrs. Hayward. The former have been here in business some 8 years, the latter is a late comer. Both firms are reputed a No. 1 by their patrons. Ames has also two Picture Galleries, a large number of Masons, Carpenters, Painters, Dress Makers &c., &c.

With the foregoing exhibit the history of Ames on the Fourth of July in the first Centennial year of our country is concluded. It may be relied on as nearly accurate and fully truthful.